

Disease/Illness Caused by Protists

Protists can be parasitic, which means they cause damage while living in hosts. These parasitic protists are carried by "vectors," organisms that transmit the parasite and infect the human population.

Condition	Protist	Description of Illness
Malaria	plasmodium (mosquito is a vector).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.7 million people/year. • common in Africa / S. America. • lives in bloodstream causes capillaries to clog & blood cells to <u>DIE</u>. symptoms: malaise, fever, vomiting, diarrhea
Giardiasis "Beaver Fever"	giardia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most common waterborne parasite in N. America. • contaminates H₂O thru animal feces. • ingested as cysts and attach to intestinal walls. symptoms: watery diarrhea, fatigue, nausea.
African Sleeping Sickness	trypanosoma brucei (carried by: tse tse fly).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • found in areas below Sahara Africa. • deadly without medical treatment • affects nervous system. symptoms: confusion, fatigue, joint pain fever.
Amoebic Dysentery "Montezuma's Revenge"	Entamoeba histolytica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infects host through contaminated water/food. • can ingest individual amoeba or cysts - burst open in intestines. symptoms: diarrhea, intestinal lining infection.

Name: _____

Life Cycle of *Plasmodium*

Label the following diagram.

